

Noyes Library for Young Children
Library Advisory Committee
Minutes
October 13, 2022
Via Zoom

Attendees: Paulette Dickerson (chair), Brigitte Dubois, Lindsay Field (Noyes Children's Library Foundation/Noyes architect), Joanne Gillespie, Sarah Huang, Elizabeth Lang (MCPL Assistant Director for Facilities and ADA), Janice Levine (MCPL Board Liaison), Cassandra Malik (branch supervisor, Early Literacy and Children's Services Program Manager), Lori McCarthy, Sarah Stanton, Dianne Whitaker (MCPL Regional Manager for Kensington Park, Noyes, Olney, and Wheaton), Mark Winek (secretary)

1. Call to order: 7:30pm
2. The attendees provided self-introductions.
3. Minutes for July and September 2022 were approved as amended.
4. Announcements:
 1. Jenny Gaynor and Amanda McCarthy cannot attend today's meeting.
 2. Dianne Whitaker has been assigned as regional manager for Noyes and will be replacing Cassandra Malik as the MCPL representative to the LAC.
5. Branch manager's report (Dianne Whitaker)
 1. Weeding:
 1. staff continue to weed the collection in anticipation of the renovation
 2. Facilities:
 1. Additional work to repair the flagstones at Noyes is scheduled for October 14.
 3. Programming:
 1. Tuesday-Thursday outdoor storytime.
 2. 18 programs were held in September
 3. 213 attended the outdoor concert on October 8. The performance was by Mr. Gabe, a musician.
 4. A mini-STEM festival is scheduled for October 15 as part of the Maryland STEM Festival.
6. Library Board representative (Janice Lavine)
 1. MCPL Board met October 12
 1. Discussed the 3 year strategic plan
 2. Meeting October 15 with other board members and FOLMC Executive Director Ari Brooks to discuss the upcoming joint meeting. Tentatively scheduled November 14 but discussions for November 9. This would allow the meeting to happen before the budget forums start on November 14. More will be known about dates after the October 15 meeting.
 2. Updating the LAC Handbook

1. FOLMC Executive Director Ari Brooks has been asked to provide their new handbook for some guidance.
7. Foundation Report (Lindsay Field)
 1. Quick history of Noyes
 1. Founded in 1893 as part of the founding of the Town of Kensington. Commissioned by Warner and Crosby Noyes as a community subscription library.
 2. Run by the Town until the 1950s until the County acquired it to be maintained as a library. In the 1970s, converted into a children's library.
 2. Foundation work on renovation
 1. Shared artists renderings and architectural plans for the renovation and described (see minutes Appendix A)
 1. Approached the Library Board to support renovation to include ADA-accessibility to all 3 floors and bathrooms in the basement.
 2. Outdoor landscaping to make an outdoor reading space
 3. The main entrance will move to the glass tower containing the elevator.
 4. 1st floor: enter in the glass tower or original entry point into the foyer before entering the reading room. Foyer to include places for coats and bags. Staircase is in the southwest corner of the foyer.
 1. Reading room will slightly shrink. Mural built into corners are a possibility to conceal HVAC ducts
 5. Basement: Hall with entrance to classroom including a sink and countertop. Access to individual use unisex bathrooms. Further down the hall to the elevator and mechanical equipment.
 6. 2nd floor: key pass for staff to enter staff spaces. Enter into a staff break room with refrigerator and microwave. Pocket doors into a staff work room with desks and a table. Separate staff bathroom.
 2. County is currently soliciting bids for the project
 3. Foundation was able to raise the rest of the funding through a public-private partnership with the state and the county to meet the goal of \$1.8 million.
 3. Questions:
 1. When will this be completed? A) Bids will go out and construction will start in late winter and it will close for a year. The building will be lifted and the foundation excavated before the building is set down again. Building will likely be lifted approximately 6-8'
8. County Building Process (Elizabeth Lang)
 1. Provided background of her role in coordinating the library's end of capital projects as they pertain to accessibility
 1. Conduit between the Department of General Services Division of Building Design and Construction (DBDC) and MCPL. Role in funneling questions from stakeholders on the library side.
 2. LAC members are invited to send their questions to her during the project.

2. Fielded questions from the LAC members

1. What is the lag time between when a contractor is chosen and contracting?

1. This can vary widely Usually projects have up to 1 year of design in conjunction with DDBC, DDBC will work with an architect. Then goes out for bid by the county, usually a couple of months. When a contractor is brought on board, it is a few months before ground breaks while they work with the county and architect on understanding the plans. Meanwhile, the library begins the move out process.
2. Currently the project is timed in a zone between a smaller refresh (6-8 months) and a brand new building project.
3. After construction, takes several months to return the collection and other materials, shelving, supplies

2. Janice: Met with accessibility group and they indicated that there were limitations on Noyes as an historical space. A) May be a question that Lindsay could answer but from the best of my knowledge, no. Everything is accessible.

1. Lindsay: Went to MC Historic Board and Maryland Historic Trust 2-3 times. Ramped up in 2014 and came up with full drawings in 2018, which were taken to Maryland Historic Trust, which did not want many changes. County said to look at a tower that looks very different from the original - the glass tower and glass link. Also went through an ADA review for accessibility. Goal was to make the space universally accessible, make sure that people could access the courtyard and still enter the building without going through the back. The triangular lot creates challenges. County DGS architecture department and outside consultant reviewed and red flagged any accessibility issues.
2. Janice: Inside work for heights and reach of things like pushbuttons, doorways, faucets, lightswitches, and coat hangers have been reviewed multiple times for accessibility.

9. Strategic Plan (Dianne Whitaker for Anita Vassalo)

1. 3 year strategic plan, with 4 major target areas

1. 1) Early Literacy, 2) Teen Services, 3) Services to Speakers of Other Languages, 4) Technology Literacy
2. Title: "Increasing Equity, Access, and Opportunity"
3. <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/resources/files/about/strategicplan-fy23-fy26.pdf>
 1. Goal 1: Children 5 and under are ready for kindergarten -this speakers to Noyes particularly
 2. Goal 2: Teens are ready for college and/or the workforce, and to be lifelong users of the library

3. Goal 3: Allow speakers of languages other than English to participate fully in the American society
4. Goal 4: Assist residents with limited access to navigate the digital world
4. Discussion
 1. Cassandra Malik noted that one of the outlooks of Goal 1 is to increase participation in summer reading challenge and 1,000 books before kindergarten
 1. Focus on equity focus areas, pointing out other early literacy moment in a child's life.
 2. Wish to meet or exceed this year's 7 year high participation of almost 13,000 children
 3. Increase bilingual storytimes
 4. Increase circulation of children's materials
 2. Dianne Whitaker added that equity focus areas are areas based on demographics in the county with income lower than the county averages and also areas where there might be greater numbers of speakers of languages other than English. These include Wheaton and Silver Spring.
 1. Kensington is not considered a targeted equity area but being close to Wheaton and Silver Spring, it is in the region. There are community schools in the Kensington area receiving extra resources due to poverty levels.
 2. Noyes is in a position to serve many people in the wider community.
5. Paulette Dickerson indicated that the LAC will want to focus on the Strategic Plan in the next few months.

10. Old Business

1. Paulette Dickerson working to get the Noyes and the LAC meetings including the Silver Spring newsletter

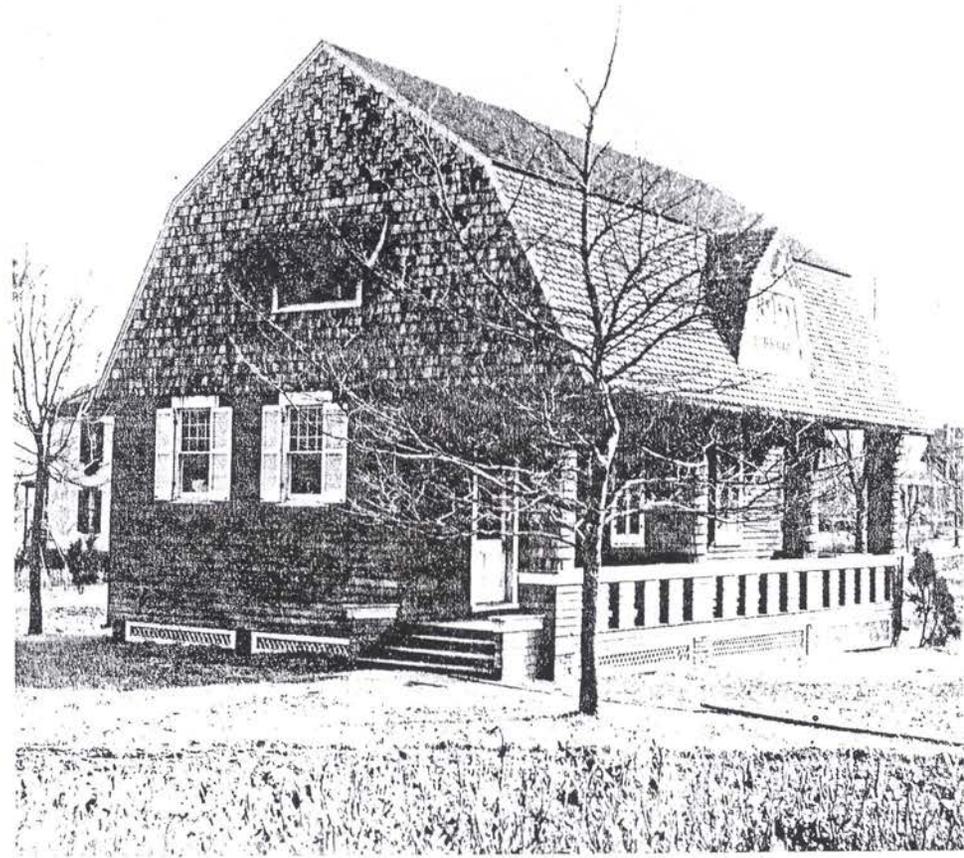
11. New Business

1. None

12. Adjournment: 8:22 pm

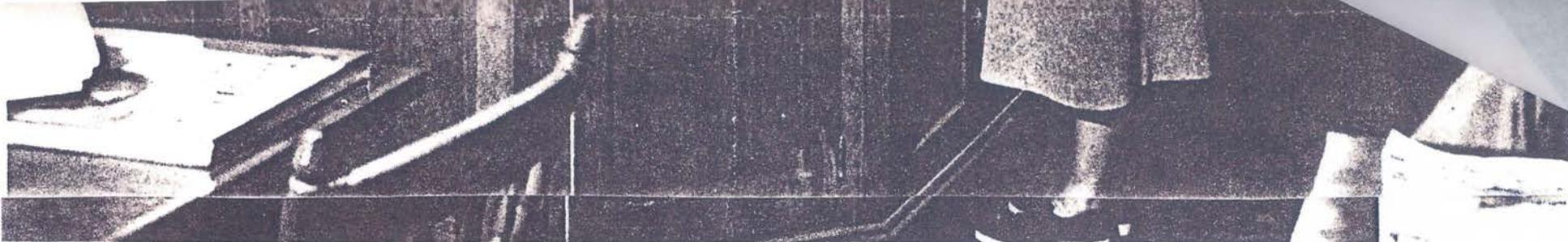


NOYES LIBRARY



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The library's building, long a Kensington landmark. It stands at Montgomery avenue and Carroll place.

Star Staff Photos.

12/25/1949, Evening Star

Miss Helen Clum, acting librarian, issues a book to Mrs. Ashby Lewis at the Noyes Library in Kensington, Md. In the background are Hawthorne Arey and his son Gordon, and at the right is Mrs. Walter B. Wells, director of the Kensington Sketch Class. Art works by members of the class, on display in the library, may be rented or bought.

Community Library Oldest in Area

OLDEST public library in the Washington area (other than the Library of Congress), the Noyes Library in Kensington, Md., plays an important role in community life there. Members of the Kensington Woman's Club serve as volunteer library workers two days a week. The library serves as an art center, too; its walls are decorated with a continuing exhibit of work by the Kensington Sketch Class.

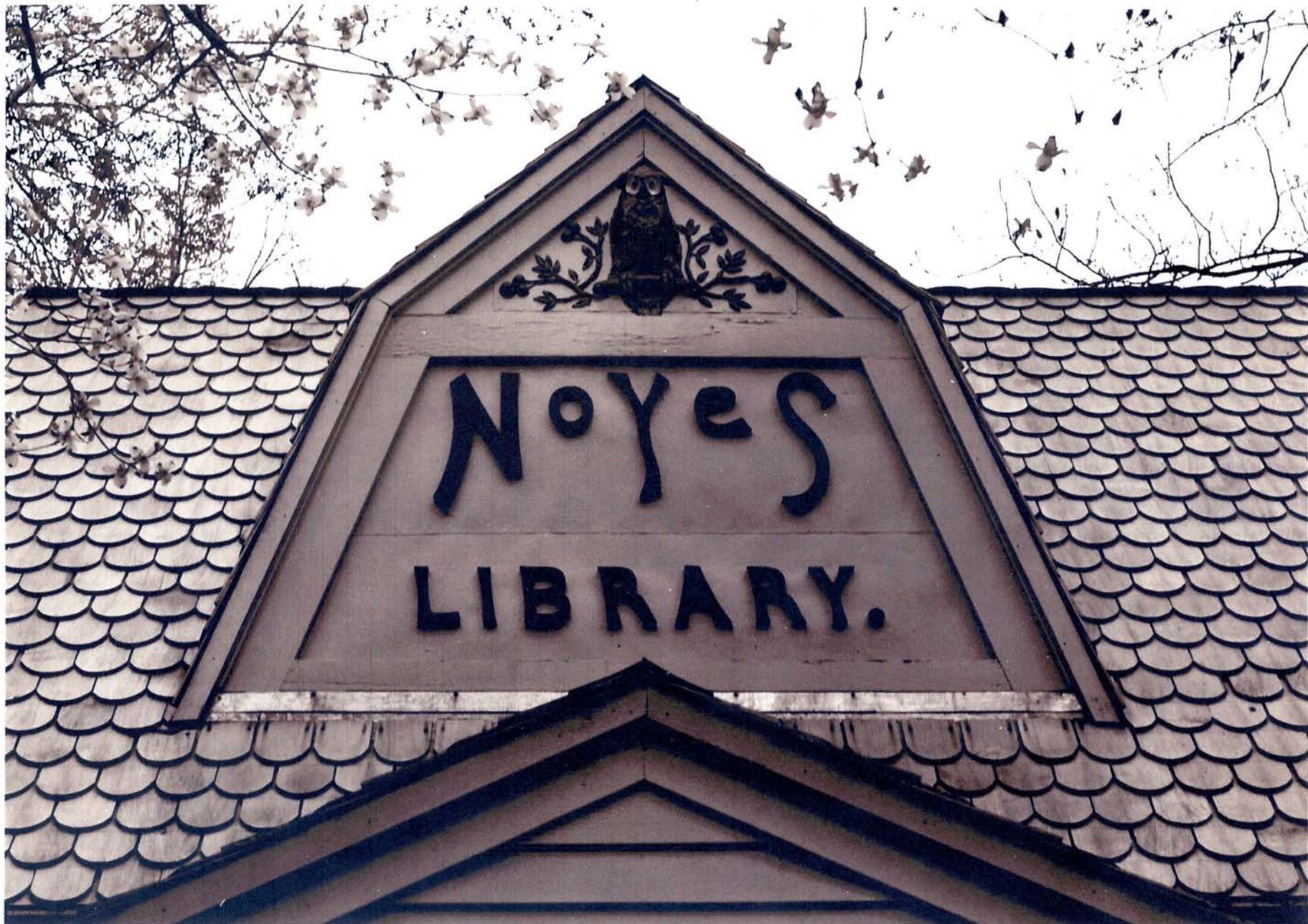
The library was started with a gift of 500 books and \$500 from Crosby S. Noyes, first editor of *The Star*. The Noyes Library Association, incor-

porated late in 1892, was given its building by Brainard H. Warner, founder of Kensington, and the library opened January 10, 1893.

It is open from 7 to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; from 10 to 12 a.m. Friday and from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday. Any one is free to read or study in the library during those hours, but only subscribers—who pay \$2 a year—may take books out. The library is supported by these subscriptions, by the income from a \$5,000 trust fund left by Mr. Noyes and by a yearly contribution of about \$200 from the town.



Noyes
LIBRARY.

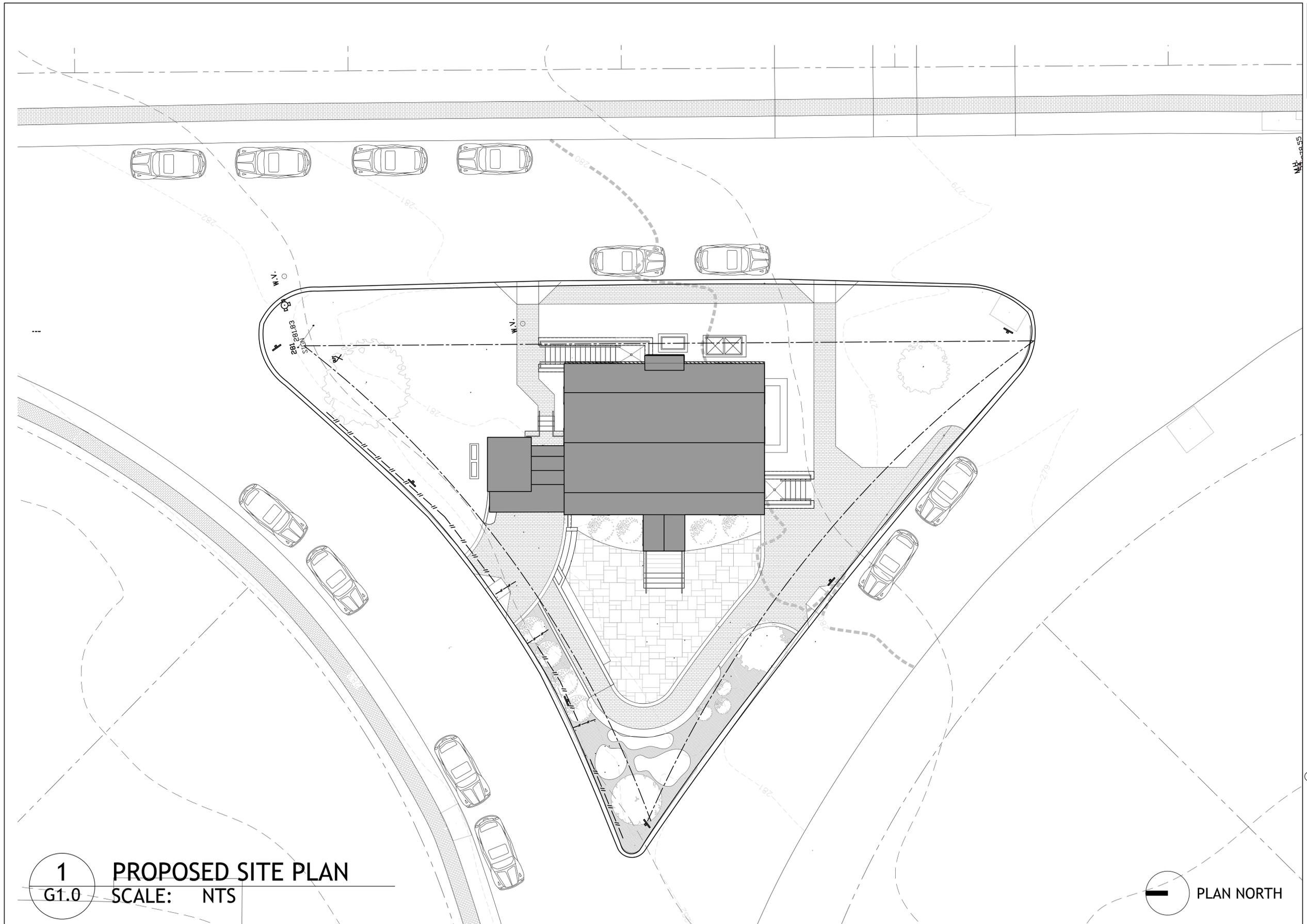


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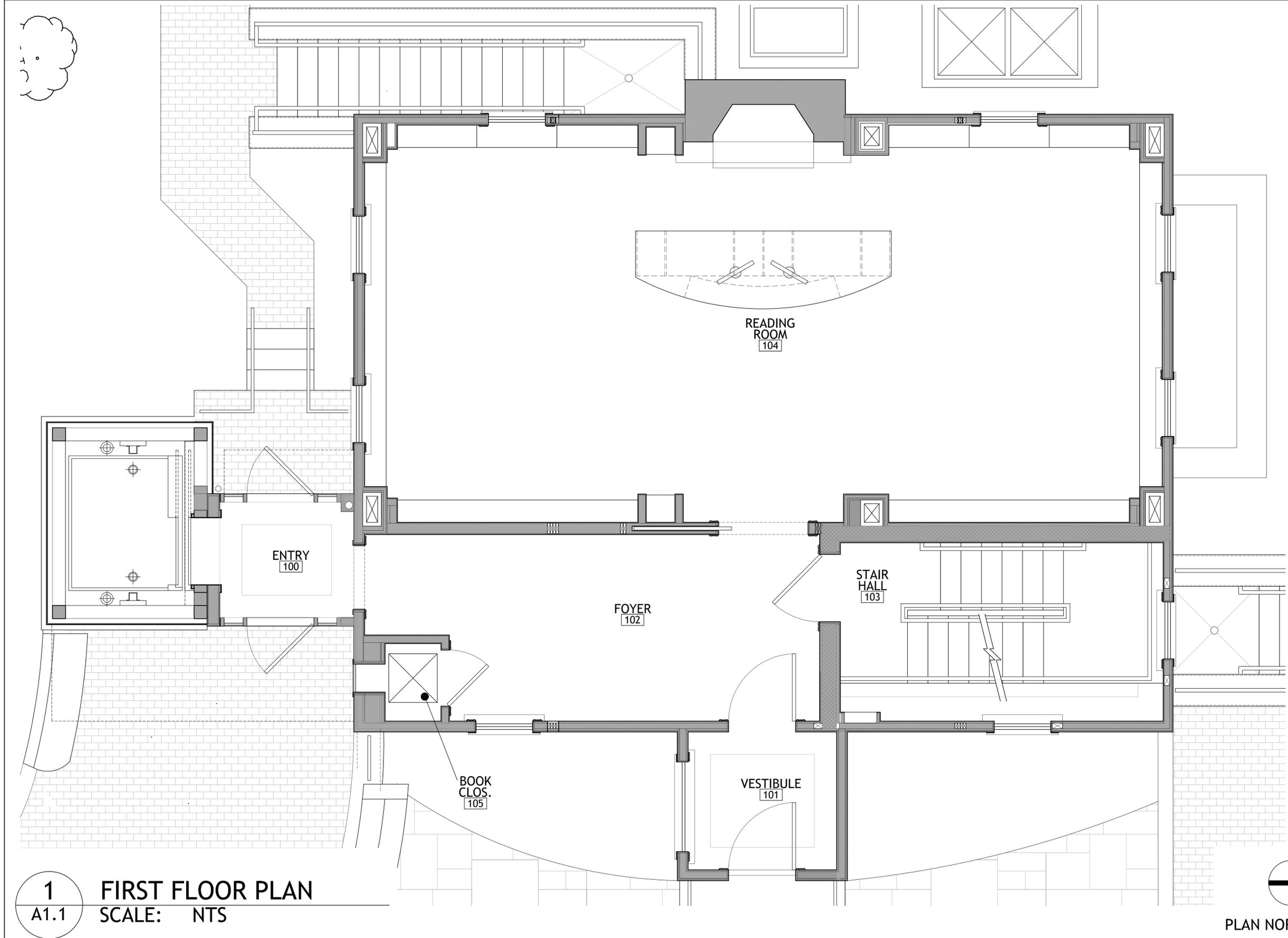
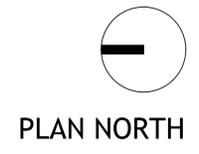
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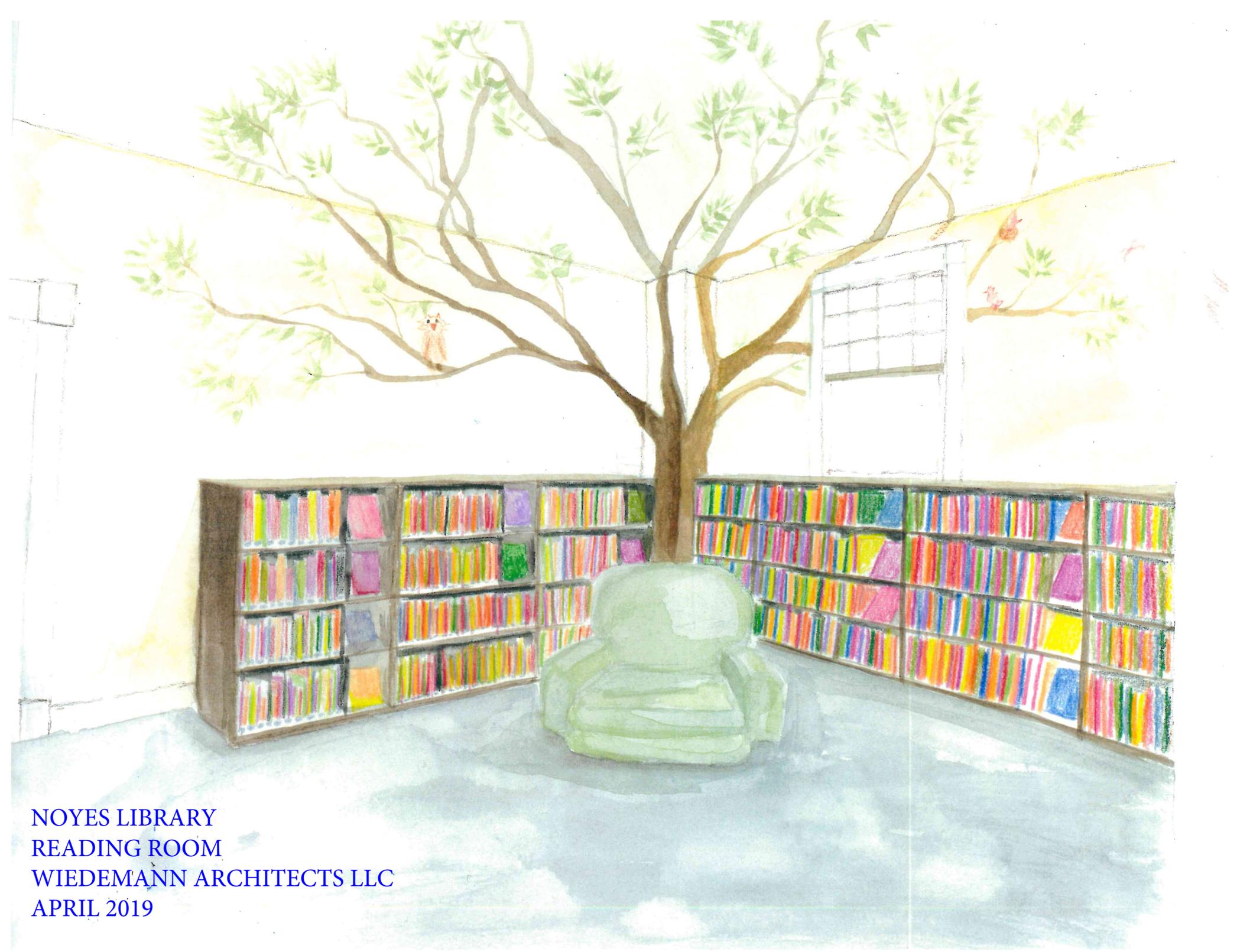
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FIRST
FLOOR PLAN



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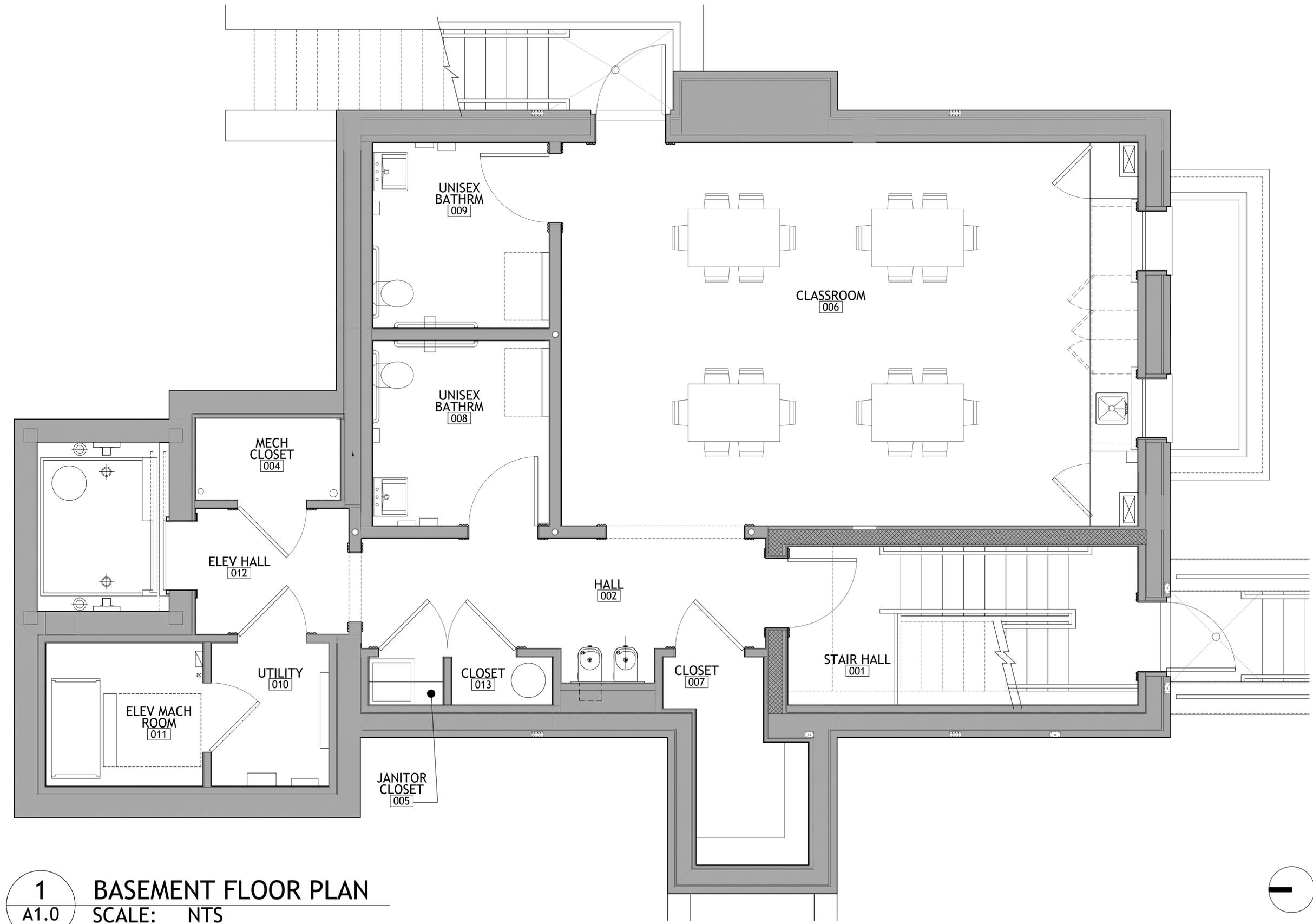


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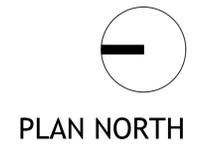
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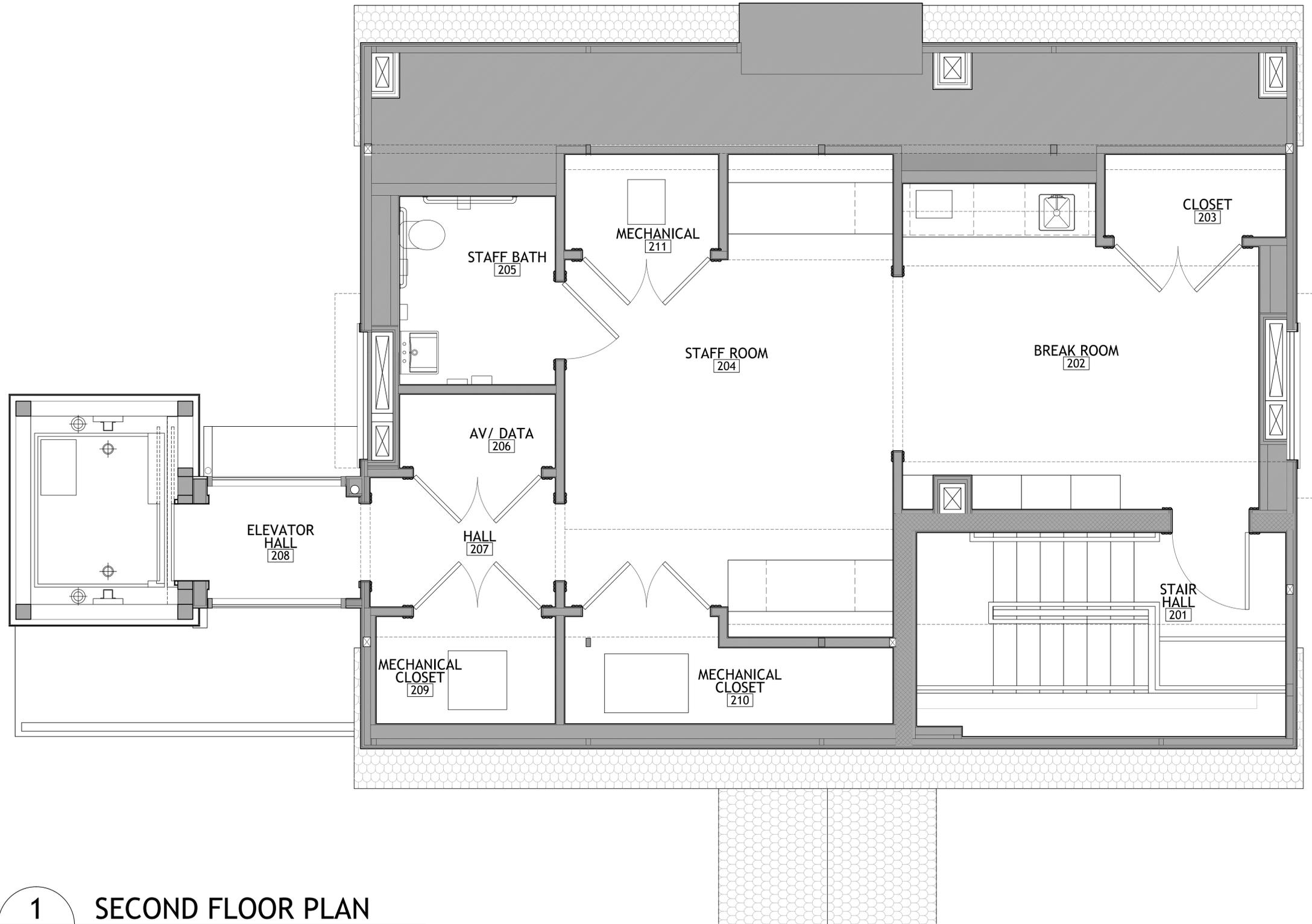
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BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



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